# Discussions on aerosol water and the hygroscopicity experiment

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### Diversity among AeroCom models



Fraction of AOD due to water (left: ECHAM5 with global annual average of 76 %; right: GOCART with 40 %)

Source: Mian Chin (NASA Goddard)

 AeroCom questionnaire from 2011: 14 models use 10 different hygroscopicity parametrizations (e.g. 2 use OPAC/GADS, 2 use κ-Köhler-approximation)

# Importance of ground-based in-situ measurements for model improvement

OPAC: Optical Properties of Aerosol and Clouds (Hess et al., 1998)

- OPAC generally higher than measurements especially for low-medium RH
- Reason: Too high growth factors for sea salt and sulfate components







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- Importance of larger particles (coarse mode) and hysteresis behavior (RH history)
- Site or aerosol type dependent

Example: Scattering enhancement vs. organic mass fraction



• Organics  $\uparrow \rightarrow f(\mathsf{RH}) \downarrow$ Inorganics  $\uparrow \rightarrow f(\mathsf{RH}) \uparrow$  Example: Scattering enhancement vs. organic mass fraction



- Organics  $\uparrow \rightarrow f(\mathsf{RH}) \downarrow$ Inorganics  $\uparrow \rightarrow f(\mathsf{RH}) \uparrow$
- Relationship will <u>not</u> hold for other aerosol types (e.g. coarse mode dominated)

Source: Zieger et al. (2015)

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Main things that influence the ambient optical properties of aerosols:

- Aerosol size distribution
- Chemical composition
- Ambient RH
- Absorption coefficient
- Further assumptions (e.g. mixing state)

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#### Hygroscopicity of sea spray aerosol



Source: Zieger et al. (2017)

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